

# St Johns Church Newsletter



## July 2022

### Editorial

The close off date for the August Newsletter is 23<sup>rd</sup> July. Please send any contributions to [shirleybdraper@gmail.com](mailto:shirleybdraper@gmail.com) or leave them in box at back of church.

### News of Members.

Eileen, and her daughter and son in law, hit the newspapers, again quoting her age in a photo for the Queen's Jubilee. Just think that Eileen is actually older than the Queen! It was great to welcome Sharman back after her operation.

Mollie and Peter have been away on another holiday.

Brenda has had her 94<sup>th</sup> birthday.

A host of 80 birthdays coming up. A 60 and a 90 birthday too. Penblwydd Hapus i chi.

St Johns sends 80<sup>th</sup> birthday greetings to Ann Embrey in her Care Home in the West Midlands near her family. Ann was one of the original Editors of the Newsletter and the instigator of the Craft Club!



### Don't walk behind me

I may not lead;

Don't walk in front of me, I may not follow;

Just walk beside me and be my friend!

*This can apply to our friendships – but more importantly it is Jesus Christ who wants to walk beside us.*

### Dates of things happening in St Johns

12 July Bois y Felin (Banc y Felin) Male choir at 8pm

19<sup>th</sup> July Quaynotes Choir at 8pm

26<sup>th</sup> July Whitland Male Choir at 8pm

2<sup>nd</sup> August Vision Show Choir at 8pm

Tickets are £10 – payment on the door or buy a season ticket for £30 and you can attend all concerts that are in aid of St Johns Church Funds. Please support these choirs and tell all your friends.

### Jokes for Children

Where do you learn how to make ice cream?  
Sundae School.

Why did the banana peel?

It forgot to put on any sun cream.

Why did the monkey sunbathe?

To get an orangu-tan.

Boy one: I'm going swimming after my lunch.

Boy two: Really, I'm getting mine from the takeaway.

A man escaped from prison by digging a tunnel under his cell. When he emerged, he was in the middle of a school playground. "I'm free!" cried the man. "So what?" said a little girl, "I'm four".

### Ministers

July 3<sup>rd</sup> Rev Stella Hayton + Communion

10<sup>th</sup> Rev Nanette Lewis-Head

17<sup>th</sup> Rev Adrian Davies

24<sup>th</sup> Rev John Hayton

31<sup>st</sup> Rev Stella Hayton

August 7<sup>th</sup> Rev Stella Hayton + Communion

### Be Happy

It starts with a good morning, then it becomes a good day. Then a good month, and a good year. In the end you'll find it was a good life.

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### Covid

We send our best wishes to lay preacher Mrs Melony Ablitt who was unable to come and preach on Sunday 12<sup>th</sup> because she had Covid, so at very short notice, the Worship Group did very well.

### I'm so lucky

Every day it's nice to stop and say, "Wait a minute! I am so lucky! I am so blessed, this is great.

### A Good Life

Is when you assume nothing, do more, need less, smile often, dream big, laugh a lot, and realise how blessed you are!

### Carew Castle - Mondays

The National Parks are organising a walk over the summer months with the Community minibus leaving Tenby Bus station 2pm and bringing you back after the walk, every Monday. If you would like to do this walk and use the free bus, please register with the organiser Sam Evans 0779652166 email [same@pembrokeshirecoast.org.uk](mailto:same@pembrokeshirecoast.org.uk). You can use your own transport but please still register for the walk as the leaders need to know how many people are coming. There is a cafe at Carew!

### Our Progress Test

The test of our progress is not whether we add more to the abundance of those who have much. It is whether we provide enough for those who have too little.

### Welsh Cakes

Are still selling well at the Wednesday coffee mornings every week. If it is fine, tables are outside on the front lawn with umbrellas, and this attracts more folk to come and sit and chat.

### Painting

Have you noticed that the rooms at the back of the church have all been painted now? They all look lovely.

### The hole above the organ

You will have noticed the plastic sheeting covering the pipes of the organ. The plaster just fell away exposing the wooden slats of the ceiling. It is being looked at for the proper care in fixing it.

### The United Reformed Church

50 years ago in 1972, the Congregational Churches of England and Wales and the Presbyterian Church of England joined together to form the United Reformed Church. In 1981 it was joined by the Churches of Christ in the United Kingdom, and in the year 2000 we were also joined by the Congregational Union of Scotland. We at St Johns celebrated with coffee and scrumptious cake after the morning worship on 5<sup>th</sup> June.



### St Swithun's Day

This falls on 15<sup>th</sup> July. You know the rhyme of course –  
St Swithun's Day if thou dost rain for forty days  
it will remain.  
St Swithun's Day, if thou be fair for forty days  
'twill rain nae mair.



### Sea swimming

Ann M, Laura and John Hayton all say the sea is still a bit cold, but they are enjoying their swim.

### July

Was named to honour Julius Caesar, it being his birth month, and before him it was known as Quintilis, Latin for "fifth" as this was the fifth month in the Roman year. More expressively, the Anglo-Saxons called it Weodmonath, the month of weeds, or Haymonath, as this is hay-making time.

### Butterflies

Buddleia, the butterfly bush, comes into flower this month, and will be covered in basking and pollen sipping butterflies. Look out for red admirals, small tortoiseshells, peacocks, common blue butterflies, and marbled white!

### Party in the Church Grounds

On Monday 6<sup>th</sup> June a great time was had by the many members, locals and visitors who came to celebrate the Queen's Jubilee together. On arrival folk went first to choose from a selection of cakes provided by members, and then to have a hot drink or



maybe a glass of squash, etc. Seats were found, with more and more being brought out from the church, as more and more folk arrived! Billy Cole provided some terrific music which had many of the folk dancing on

the grass. Towards the end of the afternoon 2 small sisters, visitors, were weaving in and out of the dancers, and had a whale of a time! It was a great afternoon, and the weather was particularly kind as well.

### Low fliers

Be careful on The Norton, above North Beach, the air can be full of low flying summer insects which the house martins, swallows and swifts then start swooping down on.

### Seagulls

Be extra careful during the summer months of the seagulls, which try to pinch visitors' ice creams, fish and chips, etc. Last summer there was one big one that sat on the back gate posts of St Mary's Church, just waiting for the unwary visitor!

### Today

...there's the real danger of overlooking a very important day...today.

For this is the place and the time for living. Let us live each day abundantly and beautifully while it is here.

*Ester Baldwin York*

### Trivia - keep reading the Bible!

The Old Testament has 39 books, 929 chapters, and 23,145 verses.

The New Testament has 27 books with 260 chapters, and 7,958 verses.



Blessings to everybody – enjoy Summer!



## Plastics

July 2022



As dead flies give perfume a  
bad smell,  
so a little folly outweighs  
wisdom and honour  
(Ecclesiastes 10:1)



### Human Creativity

From Tubal-Cain mixing elements to make bronze in Genesis 4 to Lydia mixing fibres and snail shells, with perhaps a bit of madder root to make her purple cloth, the Bible is full of clever craftspeople messing and mixing the ingredients of God's creation in order to create ever more new composite materials for every kind of use you can think of. For better or for worse.

The quote above from Ecclesiastes 10:1 reflects on the truth that a small bit of foolishness can greatly overshadow any wisdom. So it is then, that in our wisdom we can split an atom and because of our foolishness we cause mass destruction. In our wisdom we refine oil into monomers, then use polymerisation to create complex chains resulting in plastic, from the Greek word *Plastikos* which means "can be molded," and it sure can. Plastic is everywhere, absolutely everywhere! In our folly we are clogging up life, and destroying environments, and killing wildlife in their millions.

*"God saw that it was good . . . God saw all that he had created and it was very good!" (Gen 1)*



### Let us pray:

Creator God, who made human beings in your own creative image, forgive us our folly, our arrogance in our relationship with your good creation. Forgive us for the way we take life and living things for granted. Forgive us for the ways we exploit your creation and by making 'dead flies' we turn your perfume into a sickly odour, polluting the oceans and destroying the earth.

In your grace forgive us and help us. In Jesus name, Amen!



### Get Active:

Get involved with 'Plastic Free July', let this be the beginning of the way you use plastic in your life.

<https://youtu.be/ByayHG5CscE>

- ✿ Recycle and reuse the existing plastic in your home.
- ✿ Think twice before buying anything packaged or made out of plastic.
- ✿ Celebrate all the creativity in your church, get people to bring things they have made and create a service of thanksgiving to God for all that is GOOD.

PLASTIC FREE LIVING -  
Scan the QR code or visit  
[www.citytosea.org.uk](http://www.citytosea.org.uk) for  
brilliant ideas

